

In summary, the Health Indicator Trends that have exhibited an increasing trend over the past 10 years are:

- *Percent of births to unwed women*
- *Percent of pregnancies to unwed women*
- *Total number of teenage pregnancies*
- *Number of births with late prenatal care*
- *Female mortality rate*
- *Female breast cancer rate*
- *Tuberculosis disease rate*
- *Chlamydia disease rate*

In analyzing these trends, the council's overall awareness of these problems increased dramatically. One of their overall concerns with respect to pregnancy and birth data is the increase in teenage pregnancies and pregnancies to unwed mothers. Along with these concerns, is the perception that many teens are sexually active thus the increase in STD's and teen pregnancies. With regards to communicable disease control, within the total Upper Cumberland Region, STD rates have exhibited an increasing trend since 1994 including Chlamydia, Gonorrhea, and Syphilis. Total regional cases of AIDS and HIV are increasing each year. Tuberculosis and sexually transmitted diseases including HIV/AIDS continue to pose significant health threats in Tennessee. Local health departments provide testing, counseling, treatment and contact tracing to control the spread of these diseases. Efforts to promote childhood immunizations are another extremely important responsibility. The Department of Health provides immunizations, tracks immunization rates through an annual survey of 24-month old children, and provides outreach to encourage parents to immunize their children against diphtheria, pertussis, tetanus, polio, measles, mumps, and rubella.

Female breast cancer mortality rates have increased so dramatically for White Countians in the past several years, that the issue has raised several questions for the council regarding cancer issues overall. Malignant Neoplasm's data reveals that there is an increasing trend in cancer mortality rates for White County over the past 10 years. Lifestyle, environment, and genetic factors, individually or in combination, can increase an individual's risk of developing cancer. Breast cancer is the second leading cause of cancer deaths among women next to lung cancer in the United States. Further analysis of these issues and others follows in the Behavioral Risk Factor Survey analyzing the community's perception of the top concerns and problems.